

PUBLIC SAFETY AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE

DATE: September 28, 2005

CALLED TO ORDER: 5:39 p.m.

ADJOURNED: 7:45 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

Attending Members

Mary Moriarty Adams, Chairwoman
Vernon Brown
Sherron Franklin
Lynn McWhirter
Lincoln Plowman
Scott Schneider

Absent Members

Greg Bowes
William Oliver

AGENDA

Presentation on Indianapolis' Disaster Preparedness - Director Robert Turner

PROPOSAL NO. 472, 2005 - approves an increase of \$1,118,286 in the 2005 Budget of the Department of Public Safety, Police Division (Non-Lapsing Federal Grants Fund), for programs for victims of domestic abuse and sexual assault; overtime and equipment for the Super Achilles (violent offenders) task force; and programs dealing with the problem of human trafficking, sponsored by the Law Enforcement and Service Provider Multi-disciplinary Anti-Trafficking Task Force, financed by grants from the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute, the Indiana Coalition Against Sexual Assault and the U.S. Department of Justice

"Postponed to October 5, 2005"

Vote: 6-0

PROPOSAL NO. 473, 2005 - amends the Code to allow for the registration, caretaking, vaccination and feeding of free-roaming cats through a managed program known as trap-neuter-return

"Do Pass"

Vote: 6-0

PROPOSAL NO. 474, 2005 - approves an increase of \$84,032 in the 2005 Budget of the Marion County Sheriff's Department (State and Federal Grants Fund) to pay salary and fringe expenses for the Victim Assistance staff, funded by a grant from the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute

"Do Pass"

Vote: 6-0

PROPOSAL NO. 475, 2005 - approves an increase of \$39,635 in the 2005 Budget of the Marion County Sheriff's Department (State and Federal Grants Fund) to pay additional overtime expenses for FBI Safe Streets Task Force, funded by a grant from the Federal Bureau of Investigation

"Do Pass"

Vote: 6-0

PROPOSAL NO. 476, 2005 - approves an increase of \$200,000 in the 2005 Budget of the Marion County Community Corrections (Conditional Release Fund) to pay for SCRAM (Secure Continuous Remote Alcohol Monitoring) equipment used for pre-trial home detention, financed by fund balance

“Do Pass”

Vote: 6-0

PROPOSAL NO. 477, 2005 - approves an increase of \$27,000 in the 2005 Budget of Marion County Community Corrections (Home Detention User Fee Fund) for contractual services, funded by fund balance

“Do Pass”

Vote: 6-0

PROPOSAL NO. 478, 2005 - approves an increase of \$402,909 in the 2005 Budget of Marion County Community Corrections (State and Federal Grants Fund) to appropriate carryover 2004/2005 State funds; \$50,000 for faith-based program, \$10,567 for housing and treatment costs for the Re-entry court, and \$342,342 for the new work release center; funded by carryover grant funds from the Department of Corrections

“Do Pass”

Vote: 6-0

PUBLIC SAFETY AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE

The Public Safety and Criminal Justice Committee of the City-County Council met on Wednesday, September 28, 2005. Chairwoman Mary Moriarty Adams called the meeting to order at 5:39 p.m. with the following members present: Vernon Brown, Sherron Franklin, Lynn McWhirter, Lincoln Plowman, and Scott Schneider. Absent were Greg Bowes and William Oliver. Also present was Bart Brown, the Council's Chief Financial Officer.

Presentation on Indianapolis' Disaster Preparedness - Director Robert Turner

Robert Turner, Director of Public Safety, stated that the Department of Public Safety (DPS) is the largest department in the City of Indianapolis and, other than the Indiana National Guard, DPS is the largest agency in the State of Indiana. There are approximately 2500 employees. There are five primary divisions in DPS: Indianapolis Police Department (IPD) Indianapolis Fire Department (IFD), Emergency Management, Animal Control, and Weights and Measures. The DPS budget is approximately \$260 million, which is 50 percent of the entire city budget. He stated the United States became a nation transformed on September 11, 2001, which set the foundation for Emergency Management teams throughout the nation to start looking at the emergency plan. Mr. Turner said that when events like 911 and Hurricane Katrina occur there is that opportunity to learn the different practices and mistakes of other public safety agencies. The knowledge that is gained is used to update and modify Indianapolis' emergency plan. He said that Natural Disasters cannot be prevented and the key is to be prepared to address it. Mr. Turner stated that he believes that Indianapolis is more prepared than a lot of other cities in terms of emergencies.

Michael Spears, Chief of IPD, stated that IPD works closely with State and Local Emergency Management, IFD, MCSO, State Police and other agencies to help ensure that all of the inter-agency agreements are appropriate and up to date.

John Ball, IPD Major, stated IPD's mission is complex and diverse. On a daily basis the department has to consider issues like traffic control, special events, and violent crime to ensure public order and safety in the city. In addition, IPD constantly trains and prepares for any possible large-scale disasters of all kinds. Homeland Security and terrorist attacks remain of high concern. Major Ball said that IPD's incident priorities are Protection of life, Incident Stabilization, Protection of Property, and Investigation. He said that it is anticipated that a large-scale terrorist attack or a natural disaster would cause such things like multiple casualties, the need for security at shelters, loss of power, and a loss of communication.

James Greeson, Chief of IFD, stated that it is important for IFD to be properly trained, prepared and equipped to provide the services that are provided daily to the city and county and sometimes outside of the surrounding counties of Indianapolis. Chief Greeson said that the way IFD is able to meet the mission is through the partnerships that have been developed with other agencies, which include IPD, MCSO, Indiana State Police, Marion County Fire Department, Marion County Emergency Management, and several Federal Agencies. He stated that IFD is in constant training to prepare for all types of disasters. IFD is the lead agency in the emergency

support function of three areas: Fire Suppression, Urban Search and Hazardous Materials. IFD is also the supporting agency in two additional groups; EMS and Communications.

Leslie Fatum, Administrator of Animal Care and Control Division (ACCD), stated that ACCD is the primary agency in Marion County to provide the emergency support function of animal protection. ACCD will coordinate rescue, treatment and care activities amongst all available support agencies so as to ensure comprehensive animal-related services throughout the county. In the event of a disaster citizens should make sure that all pets have permanent identification on them at all times. The best practice would be to have the microchips because they are very effective.

Jim White, Emergency Management Director, stated Hurricane Katrina has caused everyone to look at their disaster plan and re-evaluate how business is done. He said that natural disasters are going to happen and they cannot be prevented. It is going to cause loss of property and life. The key is to be as prepared as possible. He stated that Marion County's way to prepare is to make mitigation a priority, have a good communications system, properly use and manage all resources, and implement and follow plans that are put in place. Mr. White stated that the citizens must also prepare themselves to subsist for up to 72 hours in case rescue teams are not able to act. Mr. White stated that Indianapolis-Marion County does have a comprehensive plan, which is continually reviewed and updated. Public Safety agencies have a long standing and successful working relationship. The plan has been tested by tornadoes and floods. The plan worked because of the relationships and people. Public Safety pursues preparedness with vigor and executes with passion.

(Clerks note: The Emergency Preparedness presentation is on file in the Council office with the original set of minutes.)

Key points are as follows:

- IPD Strategy for Preparedness is to Protect, Prevent, Prepare, Respond, and Recover.
- Since 1950 there has been no death in Marion County due to tornadoes.
- National Incident Management System allows for an organized, multi-agency approach to emergency operations, and it is adaptable to fit the size and magnitude of any incident.
- It is unlikely that animals housed in ACCD shelter facility would be evacuated due to the shelter being the most secure and appropriate facility in which to house within Marion County
- ACCD has a barn and enclosed garage areas that could potentially house exotic species evacuated from the Zoo or rescued wildlife.
- ACCD has adequate food and medications (depending on the species) to last several days.
- Potential contingency shelter locations for Marion County are Conseco Fieldhouse, the State Fairgrounds, RCA Dome, National Guard Armories, and Schools.

Councillor Schneider asked what triggers national response or a State response to a local situation. Major Ball stated that local responders assess the magnitude of an incident and the

ability to respond with the resources that are available. If it shows that the local level is overwhelmed, the legal process would establish a state of emergency. That notification goes to the State through the State Emergency Management Agency and the Governor, who then provide resources to the local agency.

Councillor McWhirter asked if there were any efforts to provide citizens with information on what they should do to prepare in the event of a disaster. Mr. Turner stated that they are going out to the community to give presentations on how citizens can prepare in case of a disaster.

Councillor Plowman asked what the contingency plan is if MECA is down due to a disaster of some sort. Mr. Turner stated that there are alternate sites if the main site cannot function. MECA also has mobile sites. Mr. Turner stated that there are alternate plans in place should MECA not be available. He said that there is no system that cannot fail but the best practice is to prepare as much as possible.

Chairwoman Moriarty Adams asked if there is enough manpower to handle a major citywide disaster such as an earthquake or a terrorist attack. Mr. Turner stated it depends on the severity of the disaster event. There are also mutual aid agreements within Marion County with the local law enforcement, other townships, and the surrounding counties. Chairwoman Moriarty Adams asked if there is any thought to maximizing the ability to evacuate citizens by creatively using the interstate. Mr. Turner stated that Indianapolis has several different ways of leaving the city, as opposed to the folks trying to leave the gulf region.

Councillor Franklin stated that it is also the citizen's responsibility to take steps to plan and prepare for a disaster.

PROPOSAL NO. 472, 2005 - approves an increase of \$1,118,286 in the 2005 Budget of the Department of Public Safety, Police Division (Non-Lapsing Federal Grants Fund), for programs for victims of domestic abuse and sexual assault; overtime and equipment for the Super Achilles (violent offenders) task force; and programs dealing with the problem of human trafficking, sponsored by the Law Enforcement and Service Provider Multi-disciplinary Anti-Trafficking Task Force, financed by grants from the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute, the Indiana Coalition Against Sexual Assault and the U.S. Department of Justice

Chair Moriarty Adams asked the committee to Postpone Proposal No. 472, 2005 until the Public Safety Committee meeting on October 5, 2005. There were no objections.

Councillor McWhirter moved, seconded by Councillor Brown, to "Postpone" Proposal No. 472, 2005 to the October 5, 2005 Public Safety meeting. The motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

PROPOSAL NO. 473, 2005 - amends the Code to allow for the registration, caretaking, vaccination and feeding of free-roaming cats through a managed program known as trap-neuter-return

Jeff Bennet, Administrative Assistant of Department of Metropolitan Development, stated that this proposal will enable ACCD to better manage the over-population of free roaming cats. He said there are up to 175,000 cats that are free roaming that do not have owners. They congregate around food sources that are provided by someone who is operating out the back door of their house in a program that is not managed. Or it could be provided in a way that is structured that Indy Feral promotes and institutes. These cats can not be adopted and the Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) is used to control feral cat populations under circumstances that vary from a few cats in the back alley to the City of San Francisco. Between these extremes there are jurisdictions of every size and description. Mr. Bennet stated that cats are not the issue, it is the nuisance behavior that goes along with cats; the howling, the digging in the gardens, and spraying on porches. Citizens do not want these cats to be killed, they just want the nuisance behavior to stop. He said that TNR is a national model for free roaming cat management. This proposal will reduce the need to bring these cats to the shelter. Lisa Tudor, President of Indy Feral, stated that Indy Feral was founded in 2003 and they are a non-profit organization that serves Indianapolis. This program is totally funded through donations and grant money, and the mission is to reduce unknown free roaming cat populations through the non-lethal method of TNR.

Liz Allison, Grant Manager for IPD, stated that she is in support of this proposal. She said that she is representing a Northdale Homeowners Association located at 5600 block of Crittenden, which is a dead end to a wooded area. Ms. Allison said that she has a feral cat residence, and is on the waiting list for the cats to be neutered. She said that the unit has spent thousands of dollars on rodent control and since the feral cat colony appeared there have been no moles or chipmunks. Ms. Allison said that the Homeowners Association spends about \$8 a week feeding the colony.

Marsha Merkel, citizen, stated that she would strongly suggest that the committee support this ordinance. This proposal is a model that is cost effective, humanly effective and effective for the cats that can live their life and not be a growing problem in the neighborhood.

Karen Gridwell, citizen, stated that she volunteers with Indy Feral. She said that TNR has helped address the problem of stray cats reproducing in their neighborhood. Ms. Gridwell stated that this program was a success for their neighborhood.

Councillor Bradford stated that he showed up in support of this proposal. He said that Indy Feral is the most amazing non-profit organization that, "...really does what they really intend to do."

(Clerk note: The TRN packet is on file in the Council office with the original set of minutes.)

Councillor Brown moved, seconded by Councillor McWhirter, to send Proposal No. 473, 2005 to the full Council with a "Do Pass" recommendation. The motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

PROPOSAL NO. 474, 2005 - approves an increase of \$84,032 in the 2005 Budget of the Marion County Sheriff's Department (State and Federal Grants Fund) to pay salary and fringe expenses for the Victim Assistance staff, funded by a grant from the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute

Marianne Greve, MCSD, stated that the \$84,032 from Indiana Criminal Justice Institute (ICJI) is for salaries for three Victim Advocates that provide crisis counseling and also act as conduits to a larger safety network for victims of crime, so they are very important to the Sheriff's department. She said that their advocates are called to the scene by deputies and provide service on the scene, and then provide other necessities.

Chairwoman Moriarty Adams asked if there was a local match. Ms. Greve answered in the affirmative.

PROPOSAL NO. 475, 2005 - approves an increase of \$39,635 in the 2005 Budget of the Marion County Sheriff's Department (State and Federal Grants Fund) to pay additional overtime expenses for FBI Safe Streets Task Force, funded by a grant from the Federal Bureau of Investigation

Tom Koppel, MCSD Captain, stated Proposal No. 475, 2005 is an increase in the MCSD's budget to pay additional overtime expenses. Currently there are 10 people assigned in that area and this funding will pay for overtime that has already occurred from March through June of this year. He added that there is no local match for this proposal.

Councillor Schneider moved, seconded by Councillor McWhirter, to send Proposal Nos. 474 and 475, 2005 to the full Council with a "Do Pass" recommendation. The motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

Consent was given to hear Proposal Nos. 476, through 478, 2005 together.

PROPOSAL NO. 476, 2005 - approves an increase of \$200,000 in the 2005 Budget of the Marion County Community Corrections (Conditional Release Fund) to pay for SCRAM (Secure Continuous Remote Alcohol Monitoring) equipment used for pre-trial home detention, financed by fund balance

Brian Barton, Director of Community Corrections, stated that this funding will pay for more SCRAM equipment that is placed on an individual's ankle that can detect when someone has been drinking through perspiration.

PROPOSAL NO. 477, 2005 - approves an increase of \$27,000 in the 2005 Budget of Marion County Community Corrections (Home Detention User Fee Fund) for contractual services, funded by fund balance

Mr. Barton, stated that Proposal No. 447, 2005 is to pay for contractual services for half the cost of the Marion County Community Correction's new COMPAS risk assessment tool that will be used at the Arrestee Processing Center (APC). The other half of the funding will come from the Probation

Department.

PROPOSAL NO. 478, 2005 - approves an increase of \$402,909 in the 2005 Budget of Marion County Community Corrections (State and Federal Grants Fund) to appropriate carryover 2004/2005 State funds; \$50,000 for faith-based program, \$10,567 for housing and treatment costs for the Re-entry court, and \$342,342 for the new work release center, funded by carryover grant funds from the Department of Corrections

Mr. Barton said that Proposal No. 478, 2005 involves carry over money in the amount of \$402,909 from the Department of Correction (DOC). Fifty thousand dollars will go to the Urban League and the First Baptist Church of Indianapolis to provide services for African American males on home detention. \$10,567 is carryover funds that will be re-appropriated for the Re-entry court for housing and treatment cost. Lastly, \$342,342 is a one-time cost that DOC has provided for the new work release center. Due to the delays in that project this funding has to be moved to a new fiscal year.

Kimberly Diller, Office of Corporation Council, stated that all of these proposals have been accounted for in the 16-line statement of the budget.

Councillor McWhirter moved, seconded by Councillor Schneider, to send Proposal Nos. 475 through 478, 2005 to the full Council with a "Do Pass" recommendation. The motion carried by a vote of 6-0.

CONCLUSION

With no further business pending, and upon motion duly made, the Public Safety and Criminal Justice Committee of the City-County Council was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Moriarty Adams, Chairwoman
Public Safety and Criminal Justice Committee

MMA/rjp